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VIET NAM WORKERS' PARTY'S 40th FOUNGING ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED IN HANOI IMPORTANT SPEECH by First Secretary LE DUAN

AN impressive meeting was held on the evening of Feb. 1, 1970 in Hanoi by the Central Committees of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Viet Nam Fatherland Front to commemorate the 40th founding anniversary of the Party. Present were leaders of the Party, State, Fatherland Front, various political parties and mass organizations as well as representatives of various social strata and religious and ethnic groups. The Head of the Permanent Representation of the PRG of the RSVN and members of the diplomatic corps also attended.

Ton Duc Thang, President of the DRVN and President of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, delivered the opening address in which he emphasized the resolve of the entire people to achieve the national tasks outlined in President Ho Chi Minh's Testament.

Then Le Duan, First Secretary of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, gave an important speech in which he reviewed the various historic landmarks of the Party which, under the two strategic slogans "National Independence" and "Land to the Tillers", attempted an uphill but successful effort to carry out national democratic revolution and lead the country directly to socialism by bypassing the stage of capitalist development. He highlighted the feats of our armed forces and people in both zones against the US aggressors, and summed up the great achievements recorded in socialist revolution in the North.

The First Secretary devoted an important part of his speech to the immediate tasks lying ahead of our people and concluded with the following appeal:

"Let our entire people and all our armed forces, under the leadership of the Party, be resolved to completely defeat the US aggressors, thereby closing the finest chapter in the glorious history of our nation's resistance to foreign invaders! Let us rush ahead for still more splendid successes in the cause of socialist revolution!"

Below are excerpts of the speech dealing with the Vietnamese people's immediate tasks:

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Comrade Le Duan delivering his speech at the Party's 40th founding anniversary commemorative rally

1970 Tet in Hanoi

A big lorry jolts to a stop in front of a shop and unloads a truckful of green leaves. Some kiddies scurry up and shout, "Is going, is going, Tet is coming!" In fact the *la giông*, which serves to wrap the traditional rice cake, heralds the festive occasion is around the corner. To see the lorry and the merry kids, a white-haired old man says to his neighbours, "Within living memory, I've never seen such a scene!"

It is certainly the first time in his life that that respectable man who has enjoyed at least seventy Tet festivals, sees the *la giông* transported to Hanoi in big lorries. When a youth, he did see these leaves coming to Hanoi from the neighbourhood, but in small bundles carried pickaback. Tradition has it that for at least three millenniums, the Vietnamese people had been making *baanh chung* (rice cake) for Tet but not all families could afford them and the poor contented themselves with looking at others preparing and eating them and other delicacies. Holding out his paper, the man exclaims, "Nineteen million in *la giông* leaves for Hanoi, a state affair, you see!"

We would fair old, a Party's concern! The State and the Party are anxious at present to supply in *la giông* and *baanh chung* and other sweetmeats of Tet not to some but to all the families in Hanoi and throughout the country. The South is still at war; American aircraft have recently bombed the provinces of Quang Binh and Ha Tinh in the North; in a country torn by the war for three decades as the DRVN there can be no abundance, but the State and Party do not forget the Tet of their people. The joy to see spring time, to start a new year, to continue a millenary tradition, to look after the old as well as the young, to think of one's ancestors and friends, all on a nationwide scale, is part of the revolution, and to supply in *la giông* and other goods to the entire people without overlooking any family is also a revolutionary job.

I remember the 1969 Tet I spent in the province of Quang Binh, just a few months after the cessation of US bombings. The roads were not yet repaired and no brick houses were left standing. But in their shelters and jerry-built huts, people relished with visible emotion the tea and tidbits coming from Hanoi in truckloads together with other commodities needed for Tet: joss-sticks for the ancestors' altar, children's variegated garment, women's requisites. To see their lorries coming, some people shed tears, thinking: We are not forgotten by the State and the Party. Never did we believe that we could have such a Tet time amidst these ruins! And they think of their fellow-countrymen and combatants in the South, for the more they appreciate the sweets of life, the more intense the hatred they harbour for those who, sixty many years, have been pouring bombs and toxic

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VIET NAM WORKER'S PARTY'S...

(Continued from page 1)

"The urgent task of the Vietnamese revolution at present is to completely defeat the US aggressors, to liberate the South, defend the North and advance towards the peaceful reunification of the country.

"Through decades of war, our people's eager aspiration for peace has never flagged. But this must be peace in independence and freedom. So long as the US is reluctant to bring home rapidly and unconditionally all its expeditionary troops, all President Nixon's professions of 'peace' are merely double-talk and are only tricks to mislead public opinion in the United States and the world. So long as the US imperialists remain stubborn and unwilling to recognise the fundamental national rights of our people, 'we must fight on and drive them away'. Our people must be prepared to fight many more years and fight till the enemy give up their aggressive designs, bring home all their troops, and respect the sovereignty of our people and the territorial integrity of our country. A nation with a record of decades of relentless effort or self-liberation is sure to march forward and recover at any cost its independence and freedom. We are firmly confident that our Southern fellow-countrymen, with the strength of the militant solidarity of the whole country, will certainly defeat the US aggressors completely.

"While always on the look-out, ready to cope with every new adventure of the US imperialists, the North must do its best to boost production, stabilize step by step the people's life, reinforce the economic and defence potentials, fulfil its tasks at the great rear toward the great frontlines, and keep up socialist construction.

"It is necessary to strive to develop agricultural and industrial production, bend all energies on producing more food, foodstuffs and consumer goods, improve communications and transport, increase the flow and distribution of goods, step up the technical revolution, the material and technical foundations for socialism and consolidate the new relations of production.

"The imperative and key task at present is to mobilize and make a rational use of all labour force and endeavour to raise the efficiency of social labour. This is a basic measure of the most decisive character for expanding production, speeding up the process of socialist accumulation, solving the immediate economic and everyday-life problems, and at the same time making preparations for a new and even more vigorous development of socialist industrialization. At present, in many branches and establishments of production, labour productivity is still low, and many potential

capabilities including technical ones have not yet been turned to full account. There is still a waste of manpower and material resources.

"It is necessary to improve organizational and managerial work so as to mobilize and make the best use of the social labour force and materials and technical means with the greatest economic results. The watchword for workers, collective farmers, socialist intellectuals and revolutionary cadres for the time being is to strive to work, work with high labour productivity and efficiency, in order to defeat the US aggressors and build socialism successfully. Let us all strive to work on the production front with the same determination to fight and to win as in our resistance to aggression for national salvation. Work! Work with high labour efficiency! This is the gauge of the revolutionary virtues, level of consciousness and sense of responsibility of every cadre, Party member and labourer. It is also a vivid token of the love for the country and socialism, a basic criterion of the qualities of the new-type man.

"In his Testament, President Ho Chi Minh recommended us to 'work out a good plan for economic and cultural development with a view to continually raising the living standard of the people.' To step up production and raise labour efficiency is the basic way to improve the living conditions. At the same time, we must try hard to rationalize distribution of goods and the catering for the people's daily needs. To care for the life of the masses is a duty of Party and administrative organizations and a responsibility of every cadre and Party member. A good revolutionary must daily think of the happiness of the masses. Adhering to the teachings of our beloved President Ho Chi Minh, let us raise even higher our sense of responsibility so as to be a deserving and devoted servant of the popular masses.

"Revolution is the work of dozens of millions of people. To promote to the full the strength of the masses in the fight against US aggression, for national salvation and in the building of socialism, we must fully enforce socialist democracy and the labouring people's right as collective masters. It is a responsibility of Party and administrative organs, and of mass organizations and cultural and educational establishments to incessantly enhance the masses' socialist consciousness and their political, cultural, scientific and technical knowledge so as to develop to the utmost their revolutionary zeal, intelligence and creativeness and enable them to fully exercise their right as masters in all facets of the political, economic, cultural and social life.

"To enforce fully the labouring people's right as collective masters

in all activities of the State and the society and concurrently, raise the effectiveness of administrative organs is to increase the strength of proletarian dictatorship. On this basis, we must mete out severe punishment to counter-revolutionaries, and those who breach the socialist law or harm the interests of the people.

"Our Party is the architect of all the achievements of the Vietnamese revolution. To increase its militant strength in the present struggle and strengthen its leadership in all social activities, the Party must incessantly be consolidated and its strength and size must be raised to the highest degree. Our Party must further tighten its grasp of its theoretical weapon, Marxism-Leninism, better master the laws governing the development of the socialist society and endeavour to apply more aptly this knowledge to reality so as to unerringly and inventively work out its line and policies. The Party must be strong in its entire organizational structure, from high to lower levels, from executive committees of all echelons to the various special Committees. The Party must be strong in its whole structure from nerve organs to local cells, to guarantee complete understanding of all the line and policies at high levels and at lower levels, in leadership centres and in the various branches, among its entire membership, in mass organizations, and among the great masses of the population. (...)

"DEEPLY imbued with proletarian internationalism, our Party, right after its birth, has set for itself the task of achieving unity with the world proletariat and with all oppressed peoples, regarding this a matter of principle and one of the factors deciding the victory of the revolution in our country. This sound viewpoint and foreign policy of the Party, strictly applied to the process of revolution in the past forty years, has enlisted more and more support and assistance from the world revolutionary movement for the Vietnamese revolution, while educating our people in the

crystal-like love of proletarian internationalism, and put them on their mettle to contribute actively to the common struggle of the world's peoples. From now on, our Party will never deflect from this viewpoint and line.

"Complying with the last wishes of President Ho Chi Minh, our Party continues to do its best to contribute effectively to the restoration of unity among the fraternal parties on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, in a way consonant with the requirements of heart and reason.

"We continue consolidating and strengthening the unshakable solidarity between us and the Soviet Union, China, and all the other fraternal countries in the socialist camp.

"We vigorously support the struggle of the proletariat and the labouring people in the capitalist countries.

"We resolutely back the effort against old and new colonialism and for national independence, of the peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

"We continue to develop our friendly relations with the nationalist countries, and will strive to strengthen the class solidarity among the 'Indochinese' peoples in the fight against the common enemy, the US imperialists, and will make ever-lasting our relations with the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Kingdom of Laos on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

"We will together with the fraternal countries and progressive people all over the world, keep up our effort against US-led imperialism, thus actively contributing to the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. We are also ready to establish relations with all other countries in the world on the basis of respect of one another's sovereignty and independence, on the basis of equality and mutual benefits."

1970 Tet in Hanoi

(Continued from page 1)

chemicals on their brothers in the South. How many Tets have they spent under US bombings?

This year, while Tet is only three days away, the Vietnamese people commemorate the 40th founding anniversary of their Party, the Party that has raised them from colonial slavery to freedom. On the threshold of the seventies of this century, while holding the traditional festivities, our people pledge themselves to fulfil with a greater zeal than ever all the tasks entrusted to them and to cover the

whole path charted by the Party

To drive out the aggressors and to build socialism are now, forty years after the foundation of the Party, first and foremost in the minds of the Vietnamese people. In these festive days, Viet Nam is adorned with flowers, but behind flowers and smiles, there always remains among her people a grim determination never to tolerate any infringement of her independence and freedom.

NGUYEN KHAC VIEN

VIET NAM COURIER

THE Indochinese Communist Party was founded on February 3, 1930 as a result of the merging of the Nam, existing three Communist groups in Viet Nam.

On February 18, 1930 Nguyen Ai Quoc (President Ho Chi Minh's assumed name during his activities abroad) made this appeal to the Vietnamese nation:

Workers, peasants, soldiers, youth and pupils!

Oppressed and exploited fellow-countrymen!

Sisters and brothers! Comrades!

IMPERIALIST divergences were the cause of the 1914-1918 World War. After this horrible slaughter, the world was divided into two camps: on one side, the revolutionary camp including the oppressed colonies and the exploited working class throughout the world. The vanguard force of this camp is the Soviet Union. On the other is the counter-revolutionary camp of imperialist capitalism and imperialism whose general staff is the League of Nations.

APPEAL ON THE OCCASION OF THE FOUNDING OF THE ICP (1930)

During the war, various nations suffered untold losses in lives and property. The French imperialists, in order to restore the capitalist forces in France, the French imperialists have been resorting to every underhand scheme to intensify their capitalist exploitation in Indochina. They have been setting up new factories to exploit the workers paid with low wages. They have been plundering the peasants' land to establish plantations and reducing them to utter misery. They have been levying new heavy taxes. They have been forcing public loans upon our people. In short, they have caused our people's wretchedness.

They have increased their military forces, firstly to stamp out the Vietnamese revolution, secondly to prepare for a new imperialist war in the Pacific aimed at conquering new colonies, thirdly to check the Chinese revolution, fourthly to attack the Soviet Union for her assistance to the revolution of the oppressed nations and the exploited working class. World War Two will break out. By then the French imperialists will certainly send out people to a more atrocious butchery. If we give them a free hand to prepare for this war, suppress the Chinese revolution and assault the Soviet Union, to crush the Vietnamese revolution, it is tantamount to giving them a free hand to wipe our race off the earth and drown our nation in the Pacific.

However the French imperialists' barbarous oppression and ruthless exploitation have opened our people's eyes to the fact that revolution is the only road to life, without it they will die a slow death. This

is the reason why the Vietnamese revolutionary movement has grown ever stronger with each passing day: the workers down tools, the peasants demand land, the pupils go on strike, the traders practice boycott. Everywhere the masses have risen up against the French imperialists.

The Vietnamese revolution has frightened these. On the one hand, they make use of native feudalists and comprador bourgeois to oppress and exploit our people. On the other, they terrorize, arrest, jail, deport and put to death a great number of Vietnamese revolutionaries.

If the French imperialists think that they can suppress the Vietnamese revolution through terror, they are grossly mistaken. First, it is because the Vietnamese revolution is not isolated, and enjoys the assistance of the world proletarian class in general and of the French working class in particular. Secondly, while the French imperialists are frenziedly carrying out their business of terror, the Vietnamese Communists, formerly working separately, have now united into a single party, the Indochinese Communist Party, to lead our entire people in their revolution.

Letter from Abroad (1941)

IN May 1941, the Central Committee of the Indochinese Communist Party convened in Phu Tho (Cao Bang province) decided on the new Political Line of the Party, founded the Viet Minh Front for the Independence of Viet Nam, and issued the slogan for national liberation.

In June 1941, Nguyen Ai Quoc (President Ho Chi Minh's assumed name during his activities abroad) made this appeal to the nation:

Elders!
Patriotic personalities!
Intellectuals, peasants, workers, traders and soldiers!
Dear fellow-countrymen!

SINCE France was defeated by Germany, its power has been completely shattered. Nevertheless with regard to our people, French rulers have even more ruthlessly intensified their exploitation, repression and massacres. In their foreign policy, they kowtow and kneel down, offering a portion of our land to Japan; without shame, they surrender our country to Japan. As a result our people are writhing under a double yoke, turned not only into hewers of wood for the French colonialists but also drawers of water for the Japanese plunderers. Alas! What sin have our people committed to be doomed to such a wretched plight!

Are we just going to fold our arms and wait for death in such a gloomy and piteous situation? Certainly not! The twenty million-old sons and daughters of the Kingdom of Laos (legionaries of the French), the Vietnamese people (old) will never reconcile themselves to slavery. For nearly eighty years, under the French invaders' iron heels we have been making untold sacrifices and ceaselessly struggling for national independence and freedom. The heroes of our predecessors such as Phan Dinh Phung, Hoang Hoa Tham and Luong Ngoc Quy, the gallant feats of our revolutionaries in Thai Nguyen,

Yen Bai, Nghe Tinh, etc. are still fresh in everyone's mind. The recent insurrections in Nam Ky, Do Luong, Bac Son have testified to the determination of our fellow-countrymen to shed their blood as their glorious predecessors did, eager to wipe out the enemy. If we did not succeed, it was not because the French invaders were strong, but only because conditions were not yet ripe and our fellow-countrymen throughout the country did not achieve complete identity of mind.

Now, the hour of our liberation has tolled. France itself is unable to rule our country. As for the Japanese, on the one hand they are bogged down in China, on the other, hamstrung by the British and American forces, they certainly cannot deploy all their forces against us. If our all their forces against us, if our entire people are united and single minded, we are certainly able to overcome the picked French and Japanese armies.

Fellow-countrymen throughout the country! Rise up quickly! Let us follow the heroic example of the Chinese people! Rise up quickly and organize the Association for National Salvation against the French and the Japanese imperialists.

Elders!
Patriotic personalities!

Some hundreds of years ago, when our country faced the danger of Mongolian invasion, our elders under the Tran dynasty rose up and passionately called their sons and daughters throughout the country to arms against the aggressor. Finally the country was saved and their good name forever treasured by future generations. The elders and patriotic personalities of the country should follow the example set by our forefathers in the glorious task of national salvation.

People of wealth, soldiers, workers, peasants, intellectuals, employees,

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1945-1954: Nation-wide Resistance against the French colonialists
Photo: Popular forces wiping out an enemy column at Luong Duu, My Tho province (South Viet Nam, 1947)

40th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIET NAM WORKERS' PARTY

VIET NAM COURIER

PRESIDENT HU'S SPEECH AT COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY ON 30th ANNIVERSARY OF PARTY'S FOUNDATION (1960)

On January 5, 1960 a grand meeting was held in Hanoi to celebrate the thirtieth founding anniversary of the Viet Nam Workers' Party. President Ho Chi Minh delivered the following opening speech.



Tet 1968: Phu Dinh bridge, in the 5th precinct of Saigon — Colon, under PLAF control during the widespread offensives

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Party Central Committee and the Fatherland Front, I welcome you to this celebration of the thirtieth founding anniversary of the Party.

In recent times, throughout the North of our country, in town and countryside, in factories, farms, co-operatives, army, offices, schools, etc., our people have been enthusiastically emulating one another in achieving outstanding deeds to honour the occasion. On behalf of the Party, I convey praise and thanks to all.

Our Southern kith and kin, who distinguished themselves with feats in the Revolution and the Resistance War, are now closely united and are perseveringly fighting the cruel US-Imperialist regime, for better living conditions, democratic freedoms, peaceful national reunification and constantly turn their minds towards the North. On behalf of the Party, I send most affectionate greetings to them and assure them that our just struggle, though protracted and hard, will certainly win.

Dear comrades,

With all the modesty of revolutionaries, we still have the right to say: our Party is truly great!

Our Party is a thoroughbred, born of the toiling class. In the great international proletarian family under the Marxist-Leninist

banner, our Party has such great elder brothers as the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Chinese Communist Party, the French Communist Party and other brother Parties embracing 35 million vanguard fighters of the working class.

Our Party is truly great. From the day our country was invaded by French imperialism and turned into one of its colonies, our people were enslaved and our Fatherland was trampled under the iron heel of a brutal enemy. For tens of years before the birth of our Party, their plight was gloomy and seemed hopeless.

Since its emergence, our Party has been holding high the banner of Revolution, uniting and leading our entire people to march forward, struggling for national unity, class liberation. As bright as the rising sun, the Party's red flag tore down the black curtain of darkness and blazed the way, leading our people's steady advance to victory in the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal revolution.

"When eating a fruit one must think of the grower of the tree. In today's merry celebrations we must recollect ourselves and think of the heroes and martyrs of our Party and people."

During the fifteen years of struggle preceding the August Revolution and during the nine years of our Resistance War, so many outstanding Party members

and so many men and women among the revolutionary masses have been credited with extremely heroic sacrifices for the people and the Party. Speaking merely of the comrades in the Party Central Committee, fourteen have been shot, guillotined or beaten to death in prison by the French imperialists. The crimson blood of these martyrs has made the revolutionary red banner brighter. Their heroic sacrifices have brought to our country the flower of independence and the fruit of freedom. Our people will forever enshrine the memories of these martyrs' deeds, and we must constantly draw inspiration from their courageous spirit in order to overcome all difficulties and hardships, and achieve the revolutionary task they have handed down to us.

On this occasion, I wish to remind you that thirty-one of the comrades who are now in the Central Committee were given altogether 222 years of imprisonment and deportation by the French imperialists before the Revolution, not to mention the sentences to death in absentia and the years of imprisonment left unserved by those who escaped from prison. Making the best of a bad job, our comrades have spent the years in detention discussing and studying political theory. Once more this not only proves that the enemy's extremely savage policy of repression could not check the progress of the revolution but on the contrary, it became a touchstone, it further steered the revolutionaries. And the result was the triumph of the Revolution and the defeat of imperialism.

Our Party is truly great. Here is an example to back the assertion: It is recorded in our history that a national hero, Thanh Giong, drove the invaders out with bamboo sticks. In the first days of the Resistance War, our Party led thousands, tens of thousands of heroes to follow Thanh Giong's example, fighting the French colonials with bamboo spears.

But victory over imperialism and feudalism is relatively easy; it is much harder to defeat poverty and backwardness. At present the North is completely liberated, the Party unites and leads our people to vie with one another in socialist construction to shape a happy and comfortable life with wholesome customs and fine habits. As long as a Vietnamese is exploited and reduced to misery the Party still suffers, and still considers its task not yet completed. For that reason, while attending to important matters such as turning our

backward economy and culture into advanced ones the Party constantly takes care of trivial things such as fish sauce, salt, etc., indispensable to the people's everyday life. Our Party is great because it is present everywhere in the country and is at the same time close to the heart of every citizen.

Our Party is great because it has no other considerations than the interests of the class, the people and the nation.

Our Party's immediate task is to lead the people to intensify emulation to increase production, practice economy to build socialism in the North and turn it into a firm base for the national reunification effort.

Our people are by tradition industrious and enjoy whole-hearted assistance from the brother countries. We must resolve to study and catch up with the latter.

The good results of the emulation drive to perform achievements in honour of the Party's birthday show that our people's creativeness is great and their strength is immense. Once one knows well why one should do something, however considerable it may be one can overcome all difficulties and do it successfully.

The Party Central Committee appeals to all members of the Party and the Labour Youth Union, of every position and occupation, to enhance their revolutionary virtues, wipe out individualism, try hard in political, cultural, scientific and technical studies, satisfactorily to carry out economic and financial work, to be exemplary in everything. They must unite with, and learn from, non-Party and

non-Union friends, to advance at the same pace with them.

At the time of the General Insurrection, though our Party had less than 5,000 members, it nevertheless led the people throughout the country to bring the August Revolution to success. Now, its ranks have increased nearly 100 times to approximately half-a-million members. We have, in addition, over 600,000 members of the Labour Youth Union. Our Party's power is steady, the People's Army strong, and the National Front broad. Our workers, peasants and intellectuals have been tested and tempered and have been making constant progress. In a word: our big force is growing bigger.

Under the clearheaded leadership of the Party we will certainly be successful in socialist construction and in the struggle for national reunification, and make a worthy contribution to the defence of peace in Asia and in the world.

Our Party is as great as the immense seas and the high mountains.

It has won so much love in thirty years of successful activity.

Our Party is the personification of virtue, civilisation, unity, independence, a peaceful and comfortable life.

Its acts of kindness and services are really great.

Its thirty-year history is a real gold book of outstanding record.

Long live the great Viet Nam Workers' Party!

Long live a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, prosperous and strong Viet Nam!

Long live Communism!

Long live world peace!



Building of socialism in North Viet Nam
Photo: At the Hanoi Polytechnical College

53rd Plenary Session of the Paris Conference
on Viet Nam (Feb. 5, 1970)

The Vietnamese People Are Determined To Defeat the US Aggressive War, Be It Vietnamized or Americanized

SAYS DRVN NEGOTIATOR

AT the 53rd session of the Paris Conference, DRVN Ambassador Ha Van Lau once again strongly protested US jet fighters' indiscriminate attacks on several populated areas of the DRVN on Jan. 28 and Feb. 2.

He said: "What right allows the US to reconnoitre and bombard the territory of the DRVN, an independent and sovereign country? And would the US government sit still when aircraft of other countries intruded and flew reconnaissance missions over its territory?"

The DRVN envoy further declared: "So long as the US pursues its aggression against Viet Nam, the entire Vietnamese people will keep up their fight. So long as the US persists in endangering the sovereignty and security of the DRVN, its people and armed forces will continue to give the aggressors well-deserved punishment. In so doing they resolutely exercise their legitimate right to self-defence to protect their sovereignty and their territory. The US government must

bear full responsibility for whatever serious consequences resulting from its above-mentioned acts."

Referring to President Nixon's statement on Viet Nam at his Jan. 30 news conference, Mr. Ha Van Lau remarked that the US President was speaking of ending the war while actually prolonging it and US military occupation of South Viet Nam, that he was professing to seek a negotiated settlement while actually downgrading the importance of the Paris Conference to subsequently scuttle it.

Shrugging off the US President's threat at the said news conference, the DRVN negotiator declared: "It is necessary to make clear that the Vietnamese people have heroic traditions and have had, over a period of one hundred years or so, a long experience of fighting against colonialism, that they have for over 30 years now been thwarting US plans of aggression to the extent that the US had had to admit that it cannot win a military victory over the Vietnamese people. What us

then Mr. Nixon's threats to such a nation?

"Neither force, nor perfidious manoeuvres or intimidation can deflect the Vietnamese people from their path which is that of a just cause."

"Without a shred of doubt, peace and justice-loving public opinion throughout the world, including that of the US, will increasingly sympathize with, and support, the just cause of the Vietnamese people."

Ha Van Lau then recalled the Vietnamese people's goodwill for peace and determination to carry on their struggle until the defeat of the US aggressive war, be it "Vietnamized" or "Americanized". "Either restore peace or continue the war, the choice now is up to the Nixon administration," he concluded.

Hanoi Press Opinion

NIXON'S PRESS CONFERENCE AND US TROOP WITHDRAWAL

TO a question as the contingent of US troops to be withdrawn from South Viet Nam, Nixon declared at the Jan. 30 press conference, "I do not want to speculate now as to whether we will beat the requirement or at least the proposal that Clark Clifford put out."

Why did the American president use the word "speculate" to refer to things that have occurred? It is to be recalled that when Clark Clifford, the erstwhile Secretary for Defense, hinted at a withdrawal of 100,000 GIs in 1969, Nixon seemed quite offended and on June 30, 1969 he said he would outstrip Clifford's plan by pulling out a greater contingent in 1970. However, up to the end of 1969, he was able to send home only 60,000 GIs in two batches. As this looks rather shocking, he

stated in December 1969 that he would pull out an additional number of GIs within the four months to come.

Regarding the same question, Nixon made it clear many times that he would withdraw "all combat troops" but shortly after, Rogers made an original distinction between "combat role" and "combat troops" and said that US "combat troops" would remain to prop up the US support and logistic forces operating in South Viet Nam for a long time.

All this speaks volumes of the Nixon administration's double-dealing regarding the withdrawal of US troops—much ado about a little thing—something for public consumption only.

NHAN DAN (The People)
February 2, 1970

MINISTER of State Xuan Thuy, head of the DRVN Government to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, on Jan. 26 granted an interview to the UPI news agency. He once again contrasted the logical and reasonable position of the Vietnamese people with the bellicose one of the US, which seeks to intensify and drag out its aggressive war in South Viet Nam and to realize neo-colonialism there.

"The Paris Conference is marking time," he said, "because the US has been

posited that if the US agrees to withdraw all its troops in a six-month period, the parties will then enter into discussions on the question of guarantee for the security of such a course of action. We have also suggested PRG-US direct talks on questions concerning South Viet Nam."

Mr. Xuan Thuy dismissed US accusations that his side has never made any concession in these terms: "The aggressor—the US—has absolutely no right to ask any concession from the victim of its aggression, i.e.

Mr. XUAN THUY INTERVIEWED BY UPI ON PARIS NEGOTIATIONS

sticking to its aggressive position."

The DRVN chief negotiator gave proofs of the flexibility of his Delegation's proposals. He said: "We have formulated the four-point position in the clearest terms. We have warmly welcomed the tentative overall solution put forward by the South Viet Nam NPL and PRG. We have purposed a PRG pro-

positional that if the US agrees to withdraw all its troops in a six-month period, the parties will then enter into discussions on the question of guarantee for the security of such a course of action. We have also suggested PRG-US direct talks on questions concerning South Viet Nam."

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40th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIET NAM WORKERS' PARTY

VIET NAM COURIER

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South Viet Nam

HEAVY ENEMY LOSSES IN JANUARY

QUANG TRI and THUA THIEN Provinces : 1,300 Enemy Casualties, 65 Aircraft Downed, 86 Vehicles Destroyed, 4 Ships Sunk.

CENTRAL TRUNG BO (between Da Nang and Cam Ranh) : from Jan. 1 to 15, 5,000 Adverse Troops Wiped Out, 36 Aircraft Downed, 173 Vehicles and 15 Cannons Destroyed.

SOUTHERN TRUNG BO (between Phan Rang and Buon Me Thuot) : from Jan. 1 to 12, 250 Enemy Soldiers Put out of Action, 6 Aircraft Downed.

SAIGON AREA : from Jan. 10 to 29, 1,000 Adverse Casualties, 185 Vehicles and 3 Cannons Destroyed, 34 Aircraft Downed on the Northern Front and 400 Casualties on the Eastern Front.

MEKONG DELTA : 3,700 Enemy Troops Knocked Out, Two Puppet Battalions and Several Companies Wiped Out or Decimated in Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Chau Doc and Rach Gia Provinces.

R. S. V. N. PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT SETS TASKS FOR 1970

In a Communiqué released on Jan. 30 the Council of Ministers of the Republic of South Viet Nam (Provisional Revolutionary Government) reviewed the tremendous all-round successes of the South Vietnamese people in their resistance against US aggression. It also set the following tasks for 1970 :

"To strengthen the leadership of the revolutionary administration at all levels, make greater efforts to mobilize all the armed forces and the entire people to step up all-sidedly the military, political and diplomatic actions, stiffen the resolve to foil all the enemy's reactionary plans to pacify and encroach on the rural areas, control the urban centres, beef up the puppet army and consolidate the puppet administration, so as to frustrate the US imperialists' 'Vietnamization' plan, record bigger and all-round successes, impel forward the resistance to US aggression and bring it to complete victory.

"The Council of Ministers decides to launch a patriotic emulation movement among all the armed forces and the entire people to fulfil President Ho Chi Minh's last wishes, bring into full play revolutionary heroism, speed up general offensives and widespread uprisings in all localities, to consolidate and broaden the liberated zone and the role of the people in the countryside as masters of their destiny, give a fillip to the struggle of the townspeople, expand political agitation work among the puppet army, and consolidate the nation-wide unity front against US aggression, for national salvation.

"To meet the people's demands and the development of the situation, the Council of Ministers decides to extend and consolidate the revolutionary administration system so as to bring into fuller play the role and function of the revolutionary administration at all levels, ensure a people's democratic administration, attach more importance to the mobilization of the people to fight while serving the front, maintain law and order, intensify education, medical and social activities, strengthen the relations between the army and the people and between the administration and the people, and increase the combat performance of all the armed forces and the entire people.

On the Jan. 28, 1970 US Bombing of DRVN

Jungle Law Will Never Prevail

1940. The Wehrmacht occupied a large part of Europe. The Luftwaffe frenziedly bombarded Great Britain but the United States was not at war with the Third Reich. Nevertheless Goering unleashed daily his "unarmed" spy-planes (escorted by Messerschmidt and Stukas) against the American territory and even gave orders to bomb and strafing many targets in Maine and Florida... To justify this predatory act, Von Ribbentrop and Goebbels alleged that for the security of its troops, the Third Reich had the right to fly these recon missions owing to US sympathy with the Reich's enemies : that

these flights in no way threatened the security of the US; that there was a "tacit understanding" between both countries authorizing the German Nazis to do that; that the US must be held entirely responsible if "auxiliary" planes had to bomb the US "in self-defence", etc.

All this story is but hypothetical, but given the nature of nazism, an extremist form of imperialism, should their military means permit, Hitler and his acolytes would not have stopped at any evil. It is up to our readers, chiefly in the States, to judge such an act according to their conscience and the most elementary principles of human laws.

A quarter of a century after the disappearance of these war criminals, these acts are reiterated in the DRVN by the US imperialists. The most recent crime whose grievousness is unquestionable just took place on Jan. 28 in Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces when American fighter - bombers attacked many populated areas and the local people's armed forces, always on the loose, returned a staggering blow by knocking down three planes.

Caught red-handed, Washington could not deny the facts. The protests advanced by Hoibin and his superiors

to "exculpate themselves" were just a leaf taken from Ribbentrop and Goebbels' book, their only effect was to bring further disgrace on the odious belligerence and hatefulness of the US imperialists represented at present in the White House by Nixon. The "right" invoked by Washington as a plea for its action, is not stipulated in any law governing a civilized society but is purely and simply jungle law. With regard to the "tacit understanding" frequently referred to by the American rulers, it has been many times pushed forward as ridiculous and impudent by the DRVN representatives: the evasion of US bombing of the DRVN

in November 1968 was unconditional.

Whatever Nixon and his lieutenants may say, the words and deeds of the men in Washington smack, in the eye of the ever conscious public opinion in the world and the US, more and more of Hitlerite hordes. As for the North Vietnamese and the whole of Viet Nam which has been facing up to aggression for years, we are quite aware of the nature of US imperialism and of what it is capable of. We know how to bring it to its senses by stepping up more resolutely our sacred struggle for independence and freedom till final victory.